AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION
PURSUANT TO WAIVER OF 37 CFR § 1.21

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, at line 8 as follows:

Figure 1 is a table showing the exon-intron boundary sequences of the human α7 nAChR subunit gene ~~(SEQ ID NOS:84-93)~~. The 3' portion of exon 1 is disclosed as SEQ ID NO:84. Also shown are the splice acceptor sequences of: intron 1 (SEQ ID NO:85), intron 2 (SEQ ID NO:86), intron 3 (SEQ ID NO:87), intron 4 (SEQ ID NO:88), intron 5 (SEQ ID NO:89), intron 6 (SEQ ID NO:90), intron 7 (SEQ ID NO:91), intron 8 (SEQ ID NO:92) and intron 9 (SEQ ID NO:93), as well as the splice donor sequences of: intron 1 (SEQ ID NO:104), intron 2 (SEQ ID NO:106), intron 3 (SEQ ID NO:108), intron 4 (SEQ ID NO:110), intron 5 (SEQ ID NO:112), intron 6 (SEQ ID NO:114), intron 7 (SEQ ID NO:116), intron 8 (SEQ ID NO:118), and intron 9 (SEQ ID NO:120). Additionally, flanking exon sequences are shown: exon 2 (SEQ ID NO:105), exon 3 (SEQ ID NO:107), exon 4 (SEQ ID NO:109), exon 5 (SEQ ID NO:111), exon 6 (SEQ ID NO:113), exon 7 (SEQ ID NO:115), exon 8 (SEQ ID NO:117), exon 9 (SEQ ID NO:119), and exon 10 (SEQ ID NO:121).

D1

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, at line 17 as follows:

Figure 6 shows ~~the~~ a partial sequence of a RACE clone ~~(SEQ ID NOS:95-100)~~, with exon sequences shown in upper case and intron sequences shown in lower case: exon D (SEQ ID NO:95), exon C (SEQ ID NO:96), exon B (SEQ ID NO:97), exon A (SEQ ID NO:98), exon 5 (SEQ ID NO:99), and exon 6 (SEQ ID NO:100).

D2

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 74, at line 25 as follows:

The first strand cDNA synthesis for 5'-RACE was performed as indicated in the manufacturer's instructions, with the addition of methylmercuric hydroxide (7 mM) to reduce secondary structure. The cDNA was synthesized using a human gene-specific antisense oligonucleotide: 5'-AGGACCCAAACTTCAG-3' (SEQ ID ~~NO:7),~~ NO:48), complementary to 5'-sequence in the longest human clone from the primary cDNA screen. Following cDNA synthesis, terminal deoxynucleotide transferase was used to attach homopolymeric (dCTP) tails to the 3' ends of the cDNA. A nested gene specific antisense primer and an anchor

D3

primer from the 5'-RACE kit, both containing triplet repeat sequences for annealing to the pAMP1 vector, were used for PCR amplification of a homopolymeric, tailed cDNA product. The sequences of the primers were: for the antisense primer, 5'–CAUCAUCAUCAUCCAGCGTACATCGATGTAGCAGGAACTCTTGAATAT–3' (SEQ ID NO:49), and the anchor primer 5'-CUACUACUACUAGGCCACGCGTCGACTAGTACGGGIIGGIIGGGIIG-3' (SEQ ID NO:50). In this anchor primer sequence, the "I" is inosine.